

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 09/265,373  
DOCKET NO.: 29284/481

transmission lines and at least a low-speed transmission line. An ADM circuit pack includes a switch for performing time slot interchange (TSI) between the high-speed transmission lines and the low-speed transmission line. In an application to a network requiring the TSI function, the switch of the OC-12IF circuit pack performs only the add/drop multiplex (ADM) operation between the signals input/output by the high-speed transmission lines and the ADM circuit pack, and the switch on the ADM circuit pack performs the TSI operation. In an application not requiring the TSI, the TSA operation is performed using a THRU circuit pack.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-2 are pending. By this Amendment, the Specification and Abstract are amended.

Applicants wish to ensure that the Preliminary Amendment originally filed on March 10, 1999, and refiled on June 12, 2002 along with an Information Disclosure Statement and Postcard Receipt, have been entered prior to allowance of this application. Should these items not have been entered, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve this matter.

The Office Action indicates that priority information should be added to the specification. The priority information added in the Preliminary Amendment has been updated to refer to U.S. Patent Number 5,896,387.

The Office Action indicates that the Abstract should be limited to 150 words. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the Abstract to be limited to 150 words or less. Approval is requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 2 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting over claim 5 of U.S. Patent 5,896,387. Attached hereto is a Terminal Disclaimer. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the obviousness type double patenting rejection.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt consideration and allowance are solicited.

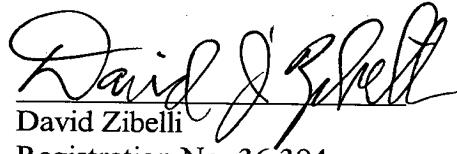
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Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made".

The Office is authorized to charge any fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Should there be any questions concerning this matter, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: July 26, 2002

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the Title, "This is a Continuation of Application Number 08/789,116 filed 27 January 1997, now U.S. Patent Number 5,896,387.

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IN THE ABSTRACT:

Technology Center 2600

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as originally filed as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A multiplex conversion unit is configured with [the] those functions required for a specific network to which it is more economically applicable. Each OC-12IF circuit pack includes a switch for performing time slot assignment (TSA) between a plurality of high-speed transmission lines [accommodated in the OC-12IF circuit pack] and at least a low-speed transmission line [accommodated in at least DS3IF circuit pack]. An ADM circuit pack includes a switch for performing time slot interchange (TSI) between the high-speed transmission lines and the low-speed transmission line. In an application to a network requiring the TSI function, the switch of the OC-12IF circuit pack performs only the add/drop multiplex (ADM) operation between the signals input/output by the high-speed transmission lines and the ADM circuit pack, and the switch on the ADM circuit pack performs the TSI operation. In an application not requiring the TSI, [on the other hand,] the TSA operation is performed [by the switch of the OC12IF circuit pack] using a THRU circuit pack [having a

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wiring connecting the OC-12IF circuit pack and a DS3IF circuit pack in place of the ADM circuit pack].

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